

Almenara, 18th March 2025

*"I thank my God upon every remembrance of you."*

—PHILIPPIANS 1:3

Dear Friends at Community Bible Church,

Grace and peace to you from our Lord Jesus Christ. I am writing to you with a heart full of gratitude as I share an update on the missionary work we are carrying out in Jequitinhonha, Brazil—a very deprived area where your support is making a profound difference. Your generosity has been a cornerstone in this new phase of this ministry, and I am very excited to tell you about our recent progress, the lives being touched, and the hope that is taking root here. Enclosed with this letter, you'll find pictures that bring these stories to life.

### A New Home for Our Ministry



We are overjoyed to announce that, thanks to your faithful support, we have recently moved into a new building. This milestone has transformed our ability to serve the community. The larger space allows us to welcome more people to our services and activities, providing a stable and inspiring environment for worship, teaching, and outreach. It stands as a beacon of hope in Jequitinhonha, and we are deeply thankful to you for making this possible. The location is much more strategic to both serve the congregation as to serve and be noted by the community.

## A New Family for Our Ministry



God has also blessed us with a new missionary family supporting the work. Leandro, a seminarian, who used to work as a builder, now is edifying people's lives with solid gospel preaching and living. He is joined by his wife Márcia, who is such a precious helper to the ministry. Her work with women and kids has been a fantastic support to the growth and maturing of the congregation. Their two sons are also very involved. Natan plays the piano and helps with the worship and everything else he can whilst Jonas brings abundant joy and laughter. He is so adorable and hospitable with everyone.

## Ongoing Activities: Sharing God's Love



The project is to set up this church plant in a viable way, developing local leadership and ensuring the church is spiritually healthy. Our days are filled with opportunities to share the Gospel and support the community in meaningful ways:

**Sunday Services and Sunday School:** Each Sunday, we hold morning and evening services where the Word of God is faithfully preached, and our congregation unites in worship and fellowship. Our Sunday School programme thrives, offering children and adults alike a chance to grow in their understanding of biblical truths.

**Weekly Prayer Meetings:** Midweek, we gather for prayer, which anchors our ministry. These times of communal seeking strengthen our faith and guide our efforts.

**Discipleship for New Converts:** We prioritise identifying and nurturing new believers, with a dedicated team offering support and teaching to help them deepen their faith.

**Neighbourhood Visits and Evangelism:** Beyond our walls, we visit homes in the neighbourhood, sharing the Gospel and providing emotional, spiritual, and social assistance to those in need. Whether it's a listening ear or practical help, we aim to reflect Christ's love in action.

## ‘Resgatando Vidas’: Transforming Young Lives



One of our most impactful initiatives is the ‘Resgatando Vidas’ (Rescuing Lives) project. This programme targets youngsters at risk of falling into criminal activities, drugs, or idleness. By combining their love of football with discipleship, we create a safe space where they can grow physically, emotionally, and spiritually. Through regular practices and matches, we teach teamwork and discipline, while our mentorship and biblical teaching guide them towards positive choices whilst developing trust and relationship. The transformations we witnessed so far –despite the short time– are remarkable: young people finding purpose, hope, and faith.

## Looking Forward with Hope



These are early days, the numbers may not look impressive to our eyes, but in our hearts, God has been showing His faithfulness through the experiences we had so far. As we look ahead, we are eager to see how He will continue to work in Jequitinhonha. We hope to expand our outreach and further develop ‘Resgatando Vidas’ to reach more young people. Your prayers and continued partnership are vital as we pursue these goals. If you feel led to support us further—through prayer, financial contributions, or other means—please know that every bit helps us bring light to this community. We are trying to set up an English Bible Study.



## Our Deepest Thanks

On behalf of the team and the people of Jequitinhonha, I extend our heartfelt thanks for your strategic support. You are a vital part of this ministry, and together, we are making a lasting difference, one life at a time. May God bless you richly for your faithfulness.

With deepest thanks and sincere gratitude,

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a large, stylized 'G' followed by a series of loops and a horizontal line extending to the right.

–Gabriel Amorim